FLAWS IN OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM.

GEN. T. L. JAMES SAYSTHE THREE R'S" ARE NE LECTED.

Graduates of Schools and Colleges Who Cannot Read or Write or Cipher Property Experiences of Business Men Too Much General Culture, He Thi nks.

It is quite true that there has been marked rogress along educational lines in the ited States in the past few decades, but it is also quite true that the result of the ent educational system of the United tes, and this includes public schools private schools, colleges and universities, far from satisfactory from the business

and commercial point of view. all very well to declare with the voice ne crying in the wilderness that edu attor, should not be considered solely as a means of amassing wealth or of earning ving I agree to this.

entirely proper to encourage genulture among those who have to make own way in the world. I say amen any plan for mental training that will cal sound culture everywhere.

he plans which include attempts ear the superstructure of culture before mindation stones thereof are laid are harmful alike to the individual schooled under them and to the nation as a whole ev impair his personal efficiency and they lower the general standard.

ome who read these lines will think I m old-fashioned when I say that nature study, free-hand drawing, wood carving, clay modelling and a lot of the subjects to which so much attention is paid nowadays our public schools should be rigidly perduated to matters that are more practical, so far as the great majority of se pupils are concerned.

in fact, none of these things, in my judgshould be extensively taken up by the great mass of public school children after they are well and thoroughly grounded in such essential things as spelling handwriting, the construction of simdirect English sentences, and the eleentary operations of arithmetic. Not long ago a bright-looking lad under

is applied for a job in a retail shop on one of the cross streets in New York

*Where have you been to school?" asked

Public schools; graduated from Gramr School No. ____," replied the lad.
I like your looks," continued the shopmar School No. keeper, "and I want a boy. It's only matter of figures. Now, if eggs are 31 cents a dozen how many can you sell for 25 cents?"

The boy couldn't answer and he didn't get the job, though he had spent years the public schools of the greatest city of the western bemisphere.

This boy, you will observe, was wholly unfitted to grapple with the simplest practical problems. Hundreds, yes, thousands. of such stories might be told, despite the vast amounts (larger, by the way, than are so spent in proportion to school population by any other city on earth) which the city of New York devotes annually to the education of its boys and girls.

You may say that the pupil with artistic ability who has latent talents that will enable him with proper training to make beautiful pictures, to model graceful statuary, to become a finished musician or to write thrilling romances does not need to be able to do sums in mental arithmetic and has no call to worry about such petty things as the price of eggs.

Suppose this is granted, the fact remains that only an infinitesimal percentage of the boys and girls of this age, or any other, have in them exceptional artistic, musical or literary possibilities. And even if every one of them by training could be taught to paint like Raphael, to model like Phidias, to compose and play like Liszt, or to write like Dickens, still only a few could find a market for their wares, while the remainder would have to make their way along oldfashioned, humdrum lines in spite of their

The number of youngsters graduated from our public schools and colleges, too, I am forced to say, who can not write clear, concise and readable letters is much larger than the number who have not mastered the simplest rules of arithmetic. And here I can give examples from more direct personal observation.

The financial institution with which I am connected requires wraten applications from all who desire to enter its emplayment, and these letters are kept on file Here is one of them, from one who has been trained in two colleges, besides, presumably, in the common schools. It will be need, too, that part of his schooling was obtained outside New York, and I mention this in order to show that not all the madequate schooling of the age can be charged to the metropolis

Siks: Applying for admission into employment, I wish to state that I have never been in business, being to school at college in Maryland, and in New York. My father's position is a bridge car-penter on the railroad. I live at I refer to and ... Yours respectfully,

This letter gives no information whatever that would be of value in determining the young man's fitness for a place as bank clerk. It does not even tell his age, and, besides, it is badly composed.

I am sure the most ardent opponents of sordidness in education will agree with me that this young man's training in the elementary subjects has been sadly neglected; that so far as rendering him capable of making a demonstration that he has an education it is an utter failure. Here is another letter of application, more specific in some ways, but decidedly of the sort that causes the judicious would-be employer to grieve. I say "would-be" employer because it is true that bankers, merchants, manufacturers, even soulless corporations, are quite as anxious to get good employees as men out of work are to get good jobs.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you will find my application. I wish to state I am twenty127) years of age, and would like to receive a salary of \$12.00 per week at start, as I am at present holding a situation which pays the \$15.00 per week, but the only objection I find is that it is not steady employment.

Remember, I can furnish the best of referpresent day. Any kind of a position will be satisfactory to me, providing I receive steady fork. Thanking you in advance for your

This young man says he can, but doe not "furnish the best of references." He says in one place that he is "twenty" and immediately afterward that he is "(27) years of age. He does not give his business

His English is inexcusably bad, and his handwriting, like the handwriting of the other young man whose letter I have copied, is ragged, labored and unattractive

Now I have a permanent quarrel with the modern school authorities practically everywhere because of their inexcusable

neglect of the art of handwriting. When I was of school age we were obliged to learn to write at least legibly. We had

copy books with engraved copies printed at the head of each page. We were required to devote a certain space of time each day to imitating these copies, which were really beautiful specimens of chirographical skill.

Many of us were not able to attain the beautiful in our own handwriting, but none save the really incorrigible were allowed to leave school with the unformed bandwriting that is so common among people of all sorts at the present time

Why, even in our own bank the numper of clerks who can write a good, clear, legible hand is ridiculously small. It is simply impossible to get employees who can write handsomely, and from what I am told this is true of most banks, both in New York and elsewhere.

Indeed, I hardly need be told the facts in this matter by anybody. I see much correspondence written by bank employees, even in this day of the typewriter's almost universal use, and nine-tenths of the handwriting that comes before me is unpleasant to the eye and much of it positively illegible.

I have heard it said that the typewriter is responsible for the bad handwriting of the present younger generation, but this cannot be true. In spite of the prevalence of the writing machine, the families that do not possess one are very much in the preponderance. Anyway, were the subject of hand-

writing given the prominence it deserves in the public schools, the handwriting of the pupil would be formed in spite of the typewriter. Its very prevalence should make the authorities more insistent upon first-class chirographical instruction in the

I remember very well the good-natured ridicule that used to be poured out in print upon the copy books of other days and the goody, goody sentiments of the lines but their abandonment has cost too much. I remember very well also the beginning f the anti-copy book movement, if I may so term it.

This began with the young women who started in some years ago to acquire what hey termed the English hand. The characters thus affected are long, cramped, sprawling and irregular, and their production has cost thousands of fair oreatures much pain and trouble and worry of mind, with the net result of illegibility, uzliness and the utter ruination of much good writing paper.

In the old days, too, we gave much time and attention to spelling. We had written spelling lessons and oral spelling lesons, and the spelling school, held on specific evenings, in which the grown-ups took active part, were a regular feature every winter.

But now the "word method" has come . Children are taught to recognize each word by its general appearance, without egard to its component parts.

I have heard teachers speak with elaion of pupils who had actually gone through chool without knowing the order of the etters of the alphabet, without knowing anything at all about spelling as we undertood it in my younger days.

Those who believe in the "word method" eclare that pupils educated under the new plan spell quite as well in actual practice as those who were educated under the method of yesterday; but, so far as I can judge, the facts do not warrant the declaration, and my view of the matter is borne out by the observation of many of my friends.

An editor of my acquaintance, for instance, showed me the other day a manuscript on a technical subject by an expert n that subject, who was also a graduate a standard university and had passed through the best technical school in his line. The article was admirable as an exposition of the subject, but its English was labored, unwieldly-in some instance positively ungrammatical and the whole was disfigured with many errors of spelling.

an not speak, since the manuscript was done on a typewriter. The errors in spelling were his own, however, for he had learned to use the machine and had "pounded

the stuff out" with his own hands. As a horrible example of "spelling as she is sometimes spelt." I am going to add a letter of indorsement which I received the other day, though it is only fair to say that I do not know whether the writer was an old or a young man, a product of the schools as they are or as they were:

DEAR SIR. this will enerduce my friend ener thing you can do for him i will presit it very much.

I have none him for years an upright and.

est man. Yours verry truly. -This brings me to that one of the elenentary studies that were made so much of in the public schools that I knew as a boy, which was placed first in the proverbial

list of the "three R's" reading.
In the old days the reading exercises were first in the order of classes, and the pupils were taught enunciation, pronunciation, distinctness and expression. You have to listen for half a minute only to the average young man of twenty or thereabouts to know that reading alone had small place in the public school routine for him.

I am happy to learn, though, that this art is again receiving more attention in the schools, and that in some cities it is being taught with more intelligence than

In conclusion, then, I wish to say that for all the flaws I have seen in the practical workings of the public school system I am by no means of the opinion that there is no improvement therein. On the contrary, I believe it is better, more thorough and more progressive on the whole than it has ever been in the past.

But in their eagerness for general culture o-called; for "universal art education," for "variety and novelty and breadth," the authorities have temporarily neglected-I am sure the neglect is only temporaryhe solid and deep foundations upon which only can true cultivation, real breadth, be builded. For one, I shall be glad when there is less dissection, less modelling, less wood carving is our public schools and more real, downright hard work devoted to the three R's of other days readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetic.

THOMAS L. JAMES.

ADIRONDACK DEER PLENTY. One Wanders Down to Utlea and Is Captured in a Yard.

UTICA, N. Y., July 26 .- Deer in the Adirondacks promise to be exceptionally plentiful the coming season. Fishermen back from the mountains report seeing the animals the mountains report seeing the animals roaming the woods in great numbers and apparently less timid than in former years. A full grown doe was found browsing with a herd of cows belonging to the Masonic Home in the eastern part of the city yesterday. The animal had evidently wandered from its haunts in the Adirondacks. It was captured and placed in an inclosure.

From the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Stoux City, July 15.—In a consignment of Western range horses from Colorado received at the stockyards here yesterday there was a curiosity in the shape of a sorrel gelding with eight legs. The horse is owned by John Huey and John Wenzo of White Pine, Col., and they had raised him. They refused \$1,000 for him. The animal is 6 years old and weighs 900 pounds.

RACING COUPS THAT FAILED.

CAREFULLY PLANNED KILLINGS RUINED BY MISHAPS.

Hard Nowadays to Surprise the Bookmakers as Warranted Did the Other Day Thousands Lost by a Change of Name Cost of a Pebbie 1 Neryour Horse's Mischance at Latenta.

An old-fashioned killing was made at Brighton Beach last week by Billy Barrick. fom Mannix, W. H. Lang and one or two horse's victory.

At the track the horse was backed from 20 to 1 to 8 to 1 after the poolroom money had been got down at a long figure. A few outsiders, who remembered that War ranted had won a swell long-distance stake race at Bennings last fall, helped to batter the price down at the track and won hand-

"That Warranted trick," remarked a well-known turfman in speaking of the race. was one of those successful coups that everybody hears about. Few hear about the nine other carefully framed-up killings out of the ten that fail to go through . When a really big operation is successfully put under, as, for instance, when Days Gideon pounded the ring for \$100,000 on his filly Josepha last year, all hands hear or read about it, and these things make recruits for the turf. The killings make the game look inviting and easy, and the fresh money of people who are fascinated by the accounts of the great coups drifts to the bookies' satchels.

"I won't say that it's about as hard for man born in 1870 to get a total disability pension for participating in the battle of Gettysburg as it is to pull off a successful hog slaughtering on a racetrack nowadays, but I den't mind mentioning in confidence that the people who fetch through a successful horse killing at this stage of the racing game have got to be mighty slick and they've got to have a whole lot of luck, besides. It's not now like it was in the old days. when the owner of an improved horse that had been held in reserve for a coup could bring the beast out on the track, give him slap, tell the jockey to fetch the animal along home by the air line and then stroll into the ring and collect.

"Any one of a thousand things can flatten prepared coup out like a piece of roof tin owadays. The railbirds in the first place have got the killings pretty nigh coppered Nothing gots away from them on any track from dawn's early light. And even if the word doesn't leak the battle between the players and the layers has now reached uch an acute stage that the boys with the slates begin to rub the minute a man whose face they know starts to make the rounds on any horse with a price chalked up against

"Not only this, but the most foolish little mishap can utterly destroy all possibility of pulling off a killing that has been shrewdly and carefully planned and worked over, night and day, for months.

A few years ago that fine mare Fleurie-Lys was brought Fast, after a successful campaign on the California tracks, for a killing. There were fewer railbirds then han there are now, and none of them caught "The mare was pitchforked, with nothing

worth mentioning in the way of weight on her back, into an overnight handicap with a lot of swagger horses, which made a good price against her a certainty. Her people designed to blister the big poolrooms throughout the country on the win, and so they sent their commissioners to various points with the money a couple of days

contemplated killing the owner of the mare got permission, for some reason or other, to change her name from Fleur-de-Lys to Maxine. The commissioners who had gone West and South with the big money to bet on Fleur-de-Lys didn't know anyhing about this switch of her name to

Maxine.

"It happened that the poolrooms they went to failed to chalk 'formerly Fleur-de-lays' after the name of Maxine, as is occasionally done in such cases, and so the

sionally done in such cases, and so the commissioners, concluding that for some reason or other the mare hadn't been entered in the race that was to be the killing, kept all of that fine Fleur-de-Lvs money right in their clothes. Well, I'll leave it to anybody to draw a little charcoal sketch of how those commissioners felt when the operators in the poolrooms, after calling off the race and announcing that Maxine had strolled in something easy, with 20 to 1 about her chances, supplemented their callioff with the dry remark, 'Maxine was formerly Fleur-de-Lys.'

"The Maxine party made a big thing of the win at the track, of course, but so trivial a thing as their failure to inform their commissioners that a change in the mare's name had been applied for cost them a good many tens of thousands of dollars.

"Only a couple of years ago a killing was all fixed on one of the tracks around here through, alongside of the tremendous and historic coups on Madstone, King Cadmus and Queenie Trowbridge. A three-year-old that's now running like a goat on the Western tracks had been showing his people such remarkable speed in his works that they decided to put a feather edge on him and send him along for all of the money on earth.

"The horse hadn't raced since the pre-"The horse hadn't raced since the pre-

seding year, when his two-year-old form hadn't been such a whole lot to scare any-body, and they knew that they'd be able to get a bundle as hig as a piano leg down at write-your-own-ticket prices. It was only cutting up for the horse to streak the mile around the Sheepshead track the in one with a big gossoon of a stable boy bestriding him, and the owner and trainer and the few that were in on the thing were

The date of the power areas of the power and the power and the power areas of the power a

him into racing trim on the old Lexington track the stull he showed me made me sit up and blink. I just hubbled within over the prospect of a killing that would make the ring look like an abattor.

the ring look like an abatter.

"One thing only bothered roe, and that was the extreme nercousness of the young follow. He was as jumpy and jerky as a fex terrier pure in feu time, and a piece of paper flying across the training track or a but of unusual toise behind him in his barn would make him hop around for half on hour like a ball of mercury with St. Vitus's dance.

cried to cure him of that in all sorts ways, including a thorough schooling the barrier, but it was born in him, and couldn't belp it. I decided to post line Tom Mannix, W. H. Lang and one or two other heavy bettors on the horse Warranted.

These men pulled out an amount variously estimated at from \$75,000 to \$100,000 on the great speed would carry him through netthstanding I took him up to Latonia a week before

I calculated on making him ferch me the bale of money home, and when the day came around be was as fine as a Strad fiddle. ncinnati sprinters, and it looked like in resenough shoe-in for my horse. "I had put about half a dozen of the

toneyed boys wise to the thing, and our sensy, at the hour the race was due, was own in a whole lot of different sections of he Unked States. The books opened up my unknown at 100 to 1, and we che hat so hard that two mirutes after dates went up my horse's price was down to to 1, and the books were leary of taking such of that. By that time, however, we tree into them for a figure that I hate to arre because it makes me jonesome to

"Weil, they got away in a line, my horse ip with the rest, and the boy with a tight old on him, according to instructions ntil the stretch was reached, when he was o cut loose and fetch him home on the bit. It was happening just that way when five

"My horse was on the rail, and the boy was just beginning to let out the links when six infernal coons suddenly rose out of the tall, rank grass alonaside the infield fence all, rains grass as indicated a succession of olasts from six long tin fishborns that must have been heard down in Alabama. My horse jumped about nine fest in the air, and then swerved heavily onto the horse

Then it was a case of all of the horses or line banging against each other until looked as if several of them would have go down. As it was, all of the from cross were thrown off their stride. Minas the quickest to recover himself, and came on and won like a scared rabbit.

"He was disqualified, of course, for four ng. The books had sniffed the roden when all of that good money went in on m orse, and a hard loser among them had hartered the six darkies to mess up the are with the fishhorus. "The bookie stood to pay our \$12,000 if my

orse won, and he felt pretty confident that the only thing for him to do was to make that sneaky play for a disqualification, le got away with it, and the next time my cod horse went to the post he was a 3 to 5 hot. That's how close I came to being a code levelor without actually setting the ork butcher withour actually getting the

s a sad, sad story, with harp obligato

"It's a sad, sad story, with harp obligato, when the saved-up horse runs away on his way to the post, after all of the money is lown. You remember Father Bill Paly's horse Magic Light, that was afterward out over the jumps?

"That horse was a good two-year-old, but like all Magnetizer colts, he was plum razy, and the worst runaway at 2 years of age that ever kicked up a clod on the American turf. Daly had him down in Washington when he was a twe-year-old, washington when he was a twe-year-old. shington when he was a two-year-old and four rich Washingtonians that knew he colt had a race tucked bet eath his beliv-and played him heavily in the poolrooms ill over the country on four separate occa-

orse the owner of which don't know any-ning about what was on, which was queer, ill Daly didn't know anything about the ig amounts of money that were is colt each time, but the men who were oing the betting didn't feel that in Daly's t was necessary to take him into their ofidence they knew that the old man trying desperately to get a purse out

The brute ran away on all four of the occasions. He got to be a laughing stock.
He'd no sconer stroil out of the paddock than he'd get his molars on the bit, and away he'd go with his barrel a-brushing and which has an eminently commercial

"When he appeared on the track for the fourth race Daly had him rigged out in more different kinds of choking contraptions than I ever saw on a vicious elephant, but, all the same. Magic Light got away with his boy and burned up the thousands as before. The Washingtonians who tried to effect that coup without the knowledge of his owner weren't down the next time Magic Light went to the post at any old price, and Magic Light, after acting like a nice-mannered did nulch caw at the barrier, zephyred in all by himself.

A sketch that gets on the raw of the folks mixed up in it is when two good things happened to get dropped into the same race. There was a race like this at Sheepshead Bay on the Fourth of July, 1895.

The people handling the horse Corneob figured it that they had him about right, and they calculated that they'd go down the line on him. The bowa with gripascles full of money were in all corners of the country on that Independence Day, waiting for the price to come in on Corneob so's they could unload.

and they calculated that they a go down the line on him. The boys with gripsacks full of money were in all corners of the country on that Independence Day, waiting for the price to come in on Corneob so's they could unload.

There were only six in the race, and there were two cound favorities. Corneob was one of the outsiders at 10 to 1. The other 10 to 1 baby was ald Doggett, ridden by Sam Doggett.

Sam Doggett.
"Doggett's people reckoned that he was

"Doggett's people reckoned that he was a pretty good thing too, and they had their commissioners tucked away, in the Western and Southern poolrooms, to spread the dough around on Doggett. The huge killing that had been framed up with Cornceb missed fire by a mose. The other good thing, Doggett, got the money.

"They ran that way, one, two, and the pair of favorites, McKee and Mirage, were the tailenders. If the parties behind these two horses had only managed toget together the bookmakers wouldn't have had many

se bookmakers wouldn't have had many recrackers to shoot off on that Fourth of MORE NEGRO LABOR EMPLOYED.

COST OF TRAVEL IN ENGLAND.

SIMPLE EXPERIENCES OF TOURIST IN HOTELS.

Raics High in the Provinces Hunt for a Hot Meal in Brists; Second Class Hotels and Lodgings What Can He

Done for \$3.50 a Day in Great Britain Again from over the water comes the ingenuous but pathetic lament: "The Amerians! Where are the Americans?

Poor cousins! It certainly does wern hard for them to grasp the fact that we are not quite so guilcless as we once were; that, though we have paid big prices for small clounks of experience, we have never theless accuranisted a pretty large stock and that we no longer wear our pockets out by going down into them every time a foreigner fixes us with avaricious eye.

All through the spring, up, indeed, to the very hour that it came out that the surgeon's knife had out short an appendix and a coronation at one fell swoop, the British lament was continually wafted across the water by the legion of London correspondents. However, shopkeepers. landfords, seat speculators, all London hoped against hope that perhaps at the very last moment they would hear the clink of our mighty dollars as we advanced to the rescue. They were doesned to disappointment, however, and they ought to have known it.

The Diamond Jubilee should have taught them the lesson even if they had failed to learn it before that. For a good long time now whenever there have been great doings in London, it has been a case of "he cometh not;" so far, at least, as the Americans were concerned

The fact is that even under ordinary circumstances England is an expensive place for the tourist. Americans found that out long ago and it has made them wary. They hear rumors of the way prices are o be boomed for a jubilee or a coronation and they turn canny, shake their heads and bide where they are until the pecuniary hurricane blows over

Even then traveiling in England will be found to be an expensive luxury, especially for the modest tourist, who seeks nly comfort. The difference between prices in England and those of the Continent is not so conspicuous in the capitals as in the smaller towns, though one's London bills eve pretty sure to overtop those f any other city.

It is in the provinces, however, that the contrast is more apparent. The folowing items, taken at random from the expense account of a tourist, who tried be as economical as was possible without sacrificing a certain degree of comfort will prove that English prices can hold up their heads in any company/

It must be remembered that these figures are for accommodations which, while they were not the poorest afforded at the notels visited, were not the best either,

To begin with a part of England which s comparatively near home, there is Wells, a which almost everybody goes to see the eathedral. With few exceptions, the American

risitors stop at the leading hotel, because the author of "A Cathedral Pilgrimage went there and said so in her book is a nice old place, and, for a wonder, has some really good table d'hôte dinners and luncheons to give the hungry traveller. As the average American gets insanely sick of the usual British hotel fare, he is

even though it costs him from \$3.50 to \$4 a day to stay there. Where there are two in a room these figures will be from 50 cents to \$1 apiece less. Somewhat different is the Christopher

advised to get a square meal at The Swan,

tly commercial

"There's nothing hawt (hot) going now.
"But can't you cook me a steak?"
She looked at the clock which announced that it was half past 11.

that it was half pass 11.

"There's nothing hawt before 12 o'clock."

"But I can't wait. I am to take the
London train and I've a good deal to do at the station. I might get you something from the

Hot?

"Oh, no! there's nothing hawt going before 12."
"Can't I have a chop!" in despair.
"I'm sawry, but there's nothing hawt..."
"Yes, yes! I know! Nothing hot going.
Well, in that case I think I'll be going mysolf."
The waitress looked a bit puzzled, but The waitress looked a bit puzzled,

The waitress loosed & bit puzzled, but stood aside. As the disgusted American walked out, she said hopefully:

"We've loads of sweets."

But it wasn't sweets for which the tourist yearned. It was steak and he could not believe that in a city like Bristol he would be unable to have what seemed to him so account a longing grantified.

portion of the heavy atmosphere of ex-cessive respectability which hangs about the leading hotels. Also the means are not

so good, it being the exception for a good table d'hote to be served in these places.

Even the economical travellers want respectability not the heavy fashionable English sort, but the common or garden variety which means absence of objectionable characters. This can be lead at he temperance hotels which are so commo Lover the British Isles. Sometimes they are very plain and un

nviting, but occasionally, as in the case d a picturesque oid limbered one at Canter-sury, one finds excellent accommodation it very much lower prices to an at the other Women travelling alone with ambitions

which promise to be a heavy tax to light purses, will find the lodgings system the biggest sort of boon. For instance, here are some examples of the cast of lodgings for two persons. These figures cover the for two persons. These figures cover the cost of bedroom, sitting room, three meals

cost of bedroom, sitting room, three meals a day, service, lights and very much better fare than one gets at most of the hotels.

At Cambridge, for two persons, two days, fees included, the cost was \$6, at Lincoln, for two persons, three days, fees and fires included, \$9; at York, for two persons, lodging and breakfast, \$1.55, at Edinburgh, for two persons eleven days, rooms, two meals a day, &c., \$27.

This gives an idea of what one, or rather two, can do in the lockings line. At Edin.

two, can do in the lodgings line. At Edin-burgh, for instance, the rooms were both large, the sitting room, in which all meals were served to the two lodgers alone, being great big place with windows directly cing the castle and a view over the park long façade of Prince's street the long façade of Prince's street.

The lodgers ordered their meals to their own liking and revelled in steaks, chicken, duck, salads and other items which are sadly infrequent at the ordinary British

tel table.

There is one thing which is always good
There is England and that is tea. Engand cheap in England and that is tea. sind creap in England and that is tea. English man or woman would rather go without dinner than afternoon tea. The American, while he does not go to that length, soon gets to the point where he has an uneasy feeling about 4 o'clock in the afternoon; a feeling which isn't exactly akin to pain, but which yields to nothing until the cosey tea tray comes into sight. Sometimes two pay only sixpence for tea and bread and butter, but usually the charge is six-

Of course, there is the ubiquitous fee, traveller abroad just as the poor are alone seems to be simply pouring out a con-tinuous stream of money in this way, the actual total is below what it is for the trayeller in this country. Here, even, if one does give only a third as often, one has to give four times as much at every clip. From actual experience the writer knows persons can travel over the length adth of Great Britain, throw in a trip to Ireland, take three months to the ex-perience and do it for \$3.50 a day apiece. What one overdraws on this allowance in

going to more expensive places one makes up for now and then in lodgings.

This daily allowance covers all expenses. Of course, it means third class on the railways, but in England, on most lines, that is no hardship, unless it is during the bank holidays in August, when everybody who is nobody, his wife or his girl, his children somebody else's, are on the wing. At other times and on all lines, except possibly one in the southeastern part of England, the tourist who wants to economize need have

of fear of the third-class carriage.
Of course, two persons can do England on much less than \$3.50 a day, but that on much less than \$3.50 a day, but that would mean, at least to women travellers, more self-denial than can be borne without spoiling one's trip. Two experienced travellers with \$5 a day each can command But on the Continent \$5 a day would be imparative wealth and would buy luxury addition to (sometimes, alas! in place of)

SOFKA, AN INDIAN DRINK. It is Made of Cornmeal and White People Are Getting Fond of It.

WICHITA, Kan., July 25. - Sofka, the national drink of the Creek Indians of the Indian Territory, is to them what the mint

romises to become an equal favorite the mint julep and whiskey sour. Indians have a dish made expressly for sofka When an Indian wants a sofka dish he goss to the woods, hews down a hickory tree and cuts therefrom a block ten inches thick. In one side of this block he hollows out a bowl-shaped cavity six inches

deep and makes the inside as smooth as possible. possible.

In this vessel the Indian places his corn, and with a pestle, which is sometimes made of stone but more commonly of hard hickory, he pounds the corn until it is a coarse meal. Then he takes some kind of fan or something which will take its place, and fans the broken grains until all the husks fly away. If the broken grains are uneven in size he takes out the larger grains and heats them into a finer meal.

in size he takes out the larger grains and beats them into a finer meal.

A potful of hot water and two quarts of meal are used in making sofka. When the corn and water have been put in the pot and the pot has been placed over the fire, take some vessel having perforations in the sides or bottom and put in it some clean wood ashes. Then nearly fill the vessel with water.

Hold this vessel over the pot containing the meal, and let the live made by the water.

the meal, and let the lye made by the water soaking through the ashes drip into the sofka. Then the mixture is allowed to boil for from three to five hours. It is next set aside and not drunk for days later This is plain sofka. The sour sofka is made in the same way.

but the mixture is set aside until it has soured or fermented. This soured mixture is the popular drink among the full-blooded

NEW YORK'S HUCKLEBERRIES

CITY IN THE SEASON.

The Harvest Lasts Seventy Days and Some Families Make \$10 a Day Picking the Herries The Great Camp on Huckleberry Hill Hard Work by Women.

Although thousands of New Yorkers spend July and August out of the city. nough remain at home to consume not less than 70,000 bushels of huckleberries that are picked on the mountain barrens eastern-northern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and southern New York. This does not include the large shipments from soints in the New England States and States

In no locality in the country do buckleberries of all varieties grow in greater profusion or of better quality than in the wild mountain regions from which New York mountain regions from which draws its main supply. Hundreds of families depend in great measure on the gathering of this crop for their livelihood.

It is no uncommon thing for the united work of a family to bring in as much as \$10 a day while the season lasts, which, averages seventy days. One season on the huckleberry barrens has brought more than one family the means to purchase a snug little farm. Six railroads derive a large revenue during the summer carrying huckleberries

from the different shipping centres to

New York-the Erie, the New York, Sus-

quehanna and Western, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the New York, Lackawanna and Western, the New York, Ontario and Western, the New York Central, and the West Shore.

The first huckleberries to come to market are the low-bush blues, which are followed by the high-bush blues, the low and the high-bush blacks and last, by the most prolific but least valued of the huck-seterry family, the black crackers. There is also a midsummer huckleberry of delicious flavor, but not pientiful, known as the

a midsummer huckleberry flavor, but not plentiful, known as the swamp huckleberry. They grow among dense tangles of swamp owths, on bushes that sometimes come near the dignity of trees that it is necesgrowths, sary to climb them to gather the berries, which are often as large as Delaware grapes, and of a dark reddish hue. They are neither sweet nor sour, but have some-thing of the palatable tartness of a ripe

Clinton grape.
The black crackers do not ripen until The black crackers do not ripen until some time in August, and they are picked until late in September. They are the most prolific variety. They grow on a high bush, and have more seed than flavor. They grow and ripen best where the sun shines on them the hottest. They are as black as ceal, and a patch of them on a barren glistens in the sun like polished ebony.

ebony.

Men, women and children, from the gray-haired grandmother and grandfather to the boy and girl just big enough to toddle, start for the huckleterry barrens every morning before the sun rises. The prolonged rainy weather of the present season has added an unusual hardship to the gathering of the huckleterry crop thus far. The berry grounds are entirely hare of timber, and in normal seasons the pickers are exposed all day, not only to the scorching rays of the hot sun, but also to a dry and suffocating heat that rises from the rocks and bushes.

The rapidity with which boxes, pails The rapidity with which boxes, pails and baskets are filled by the huckleberry pickers is marvellous. It is a common thing for many of the women to go out on the

barrens in the morning, pick all the berries they can carry in baskets or pails, besides a large be x full which is carried balanced on the head, walk five or more miles to on the head, walk five or more miles to sell them and back home again the same day, day after day during the season, rais or shine. Sometimes one will be accom-panied by perhaps half a dozen children, each bearing his portion of the family stock in trade. In the Pocono region of northern Penneyl-

In the Pecono region of northern Pennsyljulep is to the native Kentuckian. It is
made of corn and water. There are three
kinds, plain, sour and white. The latter
two are fancy mixed drinks.

The recent invasion by white people of
the domain of the Creek Indians has popularized sofka until the fashion of drinking
it has spread all over the Southwest, and
it promises to become an equal favorite
with the mint julep and whiskey sour.

In the Pecono region of northern Pennsylvania, a famous hucdeberry district, the
erop is handled almost entirely by one
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by those who sell their berries to him,
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erop is handled almost entirely by one
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and their tons of berries at the end of the
day tract of land extending for miles toward
the New York State line known as Huckleberry Hill. It is the only locality for forty
n ics around where huckleberries grow.

This barren during the huckleberry season is transfe med into one great camp,
composed of berry pickers from the country
round for miles, who pitch their tents there
and remain from the beginning to the close
of the season. At times during the berry
picking season there are as many as 1,500
neonle in the camp, pickers and sight-

people in the camp, pickers and sight-There are bands, dancing platforms, drinking booths, shows, and all the rollicking accompaniments of a midway show transplanted in the wilderness. Sunday is the gala day at Huckleberry Hill, and all

roads leading to it are thick with convey-ances of all kinds filled with people on their way to the novel camp on the barrer a More than 20,000 bushels of buckleberries More than 20,000 bushels of huckleberries are picked on Hucklebery Hill every year, and a large portion of them find their way to the New York market. There is but one other camp like that in the country. It is in the Wabash region in Indiana, where there is a similar annual six weeks carnival among the blueberry bushes.

The huckleberries that are received in New York during the season return from the dealers not less than \$350,000 to the pickers, while the local markets pay them quite as much more.

uite as much more. MR. CARNEGIE'S GAME SUPPLY.

white sofka is made from white corn and tastes much better. The Indians have a fine white corn which they raise exclusively for this purpose. In making white sofka the grains are cooked whole and the flakes are eaten later after having been boiled in the water and lye. The corn is then known as big hominy.

The Indians eat with their sofka a dish known as blue dumplings, which are quite as necessary as cheese and crackers with beer. In the making of blue dumplings two cups of cornmeal are used, a half teaspoonful of baking soda and a small quantity of butter.

Castle, Andrew Carnegee's Highland home.

The absence of any descriptive frills seems to leave the bare facts rather more impressive than they appear even in the hands of the most enthusiastic journalist. Here is the account specific facts and the seems to leave the bare facts rather more impressive than they appear even in the hands of the most enthusiastic journalist. Here is the account specific facts rather more impressive than they appear even in the hands of the most enthusiastic journalist.

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